

**Minutes of  
WEEKLY STATUS MEETING  
February 26, 2014**

Attendees

Stan Kaczmarek, dmi  
John Rolfe, dmi  
Stephanie Vaughn, EPA  
Jennifer LaPoma, EPA  
Mike Hoppe, EPA  
Beth Franklin, US Army Corps of Engineers  
Gary Foster, CH2M-Hill  
George Hicks, CH2M-Hill  
Roy Weller, CH2M-Hill

Mike Holsinger, CH2M-Hill  
Jim Brinkman, CH2M-Hill  
Joe Hambrick, CH2M-Hill  
Sharon Budney, CDM  
Amy Picunas, CDM  
Frank Tsang, CDM  
Tim Briggs, GLDD  
Jeff Krug, GLDD

1) **H&S Moment**: Mike (CH2M) – Parking lot and situation awareness – Encouraged backing into parking spaces and checking for car movement in adjacent spaces.

2) **Health & Safety**

- a) GLDD held a pre-launch safety meeting with the crew last week.
- b) CH2M HILL performed a pre-OSHA inspection this week
- c) Update on OSHA inspection regarding January 21 injury
  - After the teleconference, OSHA tentatively scheduled their inspection for Tuesday March 4.

3) **Schedule and Logistics**

- a) The Poseidon barge with the sinking bar assembly was transported to RM 10.9 on Thursday, 02/20. No bridge openings were required.
- b) The remainder of the week (Friday through Sunday) was spent de-icing and removing snow from barges and equipment, performing final installation of the sinking bar assembly, checking the barge anchoring system, and verifying the operability of the turbidity monitoring buoys.
- c) GLDD finalized the equipment set-up Tuesday afternoon. GLDD started placing the geotextile/stone Wednesday morning at northern area
  - Completed 1<sup>st</sup> panel, with sinking bar assembly providing control to minimize impacts of the river current on the fabric
  - Encountered some interference with tree limbs. Tree trimming will be required
  - Will align barges and prepare for multiple panel installation on Thursday
  - Will also improve possible safety issues regarding operation of the sinking bar assembly, and will break up frozen stone on the adjacent barge
  - Discussed how 1 foot stone elevation will be achieved

- GLDD asked if the discharge from a storm water pumping station could be shut off. Stan (dmi) responded that he would ask the township engineer to address
- d) Bridge operators have been notified of potential bridge opening this weekend. Essex County has not responded. Stan (dmi) requested that schedule be distributed early so that if Essex County balks, there will be time to ask others to intervene.
  - e) As was discussed in the prior week's call, GLDD took some reactive layer thickness verification samples. All samples ranged from 8.0" to 11.5". Gary (CH2) offered to arrange any additional sampling that EPA (or CDM) requests. EPA indicated they wanted to see how work progressed before scheduling any additional sampling.

#### **4) Issues**

- a) Use of heavy equipment in the park for use as an anchor awaiting final approval from park personnel.
  - Stan (dmi) stated that Bergen County Parks has had no comments so far.
  - GLDD will determine if the equipment is still needed early next week.
- b) The current schedule extends completion of the cap beyond March 1 when the traditional "fish window" would come into play. EPA was asked to summarize outcomes of recent discussions between EPA and various authorities regarding how to address the fish window.
  - Stephanie (EPA) reported that during talks with the National Marine Fishery Service (the scientific authority for this issue) that they are setting March 15<sup>th</sup> as a more suitable start date for the 2014 fish window on the Lower Passaic River. NMFS also stated that they did not have a concern about the continuation of the RM 10.9 work beyond that date. EPA has notified NJDEP that work to complete placement of the geotextile, armoring and sand layers recommenced the week of February 24<sup>th</sup> and, barring another extended extreme cold spell or technical difficulties, should be complete in April. Subsequently, NJDEP informed EPA that they were modifying their permit equivalency to allow the work to proceed by waiving the timing restriction. NJDEP offered to put this in writing.
- c) Weather outlook – Cold weather is predicted to continue, so extra attention to ice and cold weather impacts will continue to be required
- d) Nutley officials asked CPG to stop using the Nutley boat ramp for CPG vehicles until after they are finished with snow removal activities in the city. They also told GLDD they will allow temporary access to the boat ramp during this time for fuel and supply delivery.
- e) GLDD will send email to CH2M HILL that they plan on working this upcoming Sunday.

Next Weekly Status meeting will occur on Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1300.

Meeting Concluded